

Christmas 2019 by meepmorpperaltiago

Category: Stranger Things (TV 2016)

Genre: THIS IS VERY BRIEF, They're a happy family with no danger now, but i hope you like it, like they deserve

Language: English

Characters: Eleven | Jane Hopper, Jim "Chief" Hopper, Joyce Byers, Mike Wheeler, Original Eleven | Jane Hopper/Mike Wheeler Child(ren), Will Byers

Relationships: (background), Eleven | Jane Hopper & Jim "Chief" Hopper, Eleven | Jane Hopper/Mike Wheeler, Joyce Byers/Jim "Chief" Hopper

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Summary:

A look into Christmas 2019 for the Hopper/Wheeler/Byers family and a reflection on past Christmasses

Christmas 2019

There's a strange sense of quiet in the Hopper-Byers house – it's one that settles on most days, ever since the couple living there retired years ago. But it's one that's about to be disrupted by a group that sometimes seems the size of a small army. Their family. Hopper and Joyce's children and grandchildren and in laws, even Mike's mother joining in on the fun ever since her divorce from Ted decades ago.

It's a tradition that started when Will and then El both moved out to go to college. 30 years later, with the addition of kids and spouses, their house is pretty chaotic at Christmas.

They've even had big moments together gathered around the Christmas tree – Mike and El told everyone they were expecting their eldest daughter Lily under the glow of the lights in '97. It was where Will first introduced them to Chris, now his civil partner of 20 years and husband for 4.

They've moved from presents only for grown ups, to baby toys and first Christmas ornaments newly placed on the tree, to barbie dolls, to skateboards and Nintendo DSs and Hannah Montana concert tickets (the greatest night of 10 year old Lily's life), back round to teenage and grown up gifts.

They now have an assembly line in the kitchen, available for anyone who wants to help out.

Everyone gets a stocking too – although Joyce and Hopper think it was more fun when the grandkids genuinely believed they came from Santa, rather than joking about it. Not that they want great grandkids anytime soon, with the age range of the current youngest Wheeler-Byers-Hopper generation being 14 to 22.

Like every year, this Christmas Hopper sits in his favourite armchair like the grandpa he is, the dog at his feet, watching his family celebrate together. In a bittersweet flash, he's reminded of Christmasses with Sara and Diane, before his world was ripped apart. But that sad feeling that will always be there is now matched by joy, at the wonderful new life built by the people he now loves most in

the world.

Author's Note:

If you want more detail, a full list of my future stranger things headcanons is on my tumblr here :)
<https://meepmorpperaltiago.tumblr.com/post/642638675469074432/stranger-things-future-headcanons-my-stranger>